

# **CHASE** **Early Education Emergent Leaders**

*A Professional Development Project to Improve Quality*

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this program is to increase the capacity of professionals in early care and education programs through training, networking and technical assistance to actively create, support and advocate for high-quality early care and education programs.

## **Description**

This project is seeking a diverse group of emerging leaders in early care and education in Arizona for 2006-2007. The goal of the project is to support and facilitate the growth of a leadership group that creates, supports, and advocates for high-quality in early care and education programs in Arizona.

The participants will meet monthly over a 12 month period to: develop administrative and advocacy leadership skills, to share ideas, and dialogue with other committed professionals in early care and education. The program seeks to expand leadership skills and vision and to extend professional networks. Each participant will complete a project that improves the quality of early care and education in Arizona. In addition, there will be regular communication with project staff, mentors, and consultants in person as well as via telephone and e-mail.

## **Application Process**

An applicant must submit a completed application to the project coordinator postmarked or hand delivered by 5:00 p.m., **June 2, 2006**. Faxed applications are not acceptable. Notification of acceptance will be on or before July 21, 2006. Candidates must provide a working, reliable e-mail address.

Mail/deliver completed applications to:

Alicia Smith, Ed.D.  
Project Coordinator  
Chase Early Education Emergent Leaders  
Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families  
State Board on School Readiness  
1700 W. Washington Street, Suite 101  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

## **Qualifications and Selection**

Successful participants should demonstrate:

- A commitment to full participation in the Chase Emergent Leaders Program by attending all meetings, having regular contact with a mentor, participating in conference calls;
- A desire to pursue personal and professional development through peer learning and implementation of a leadership project;
- Dedication to improving quality in early care and education in Arizona;
- A desire to actively participate in national, state, and local early care and education initiatives.

An expert panel of identified leaders in the field of early care and education will review applications. Finalists will participate in an interview with members of the selection committee. Twenty-five will be selected. Emergent Leaders Program staff will facilitate but not be part of the review and selection team.

## **Participation, Commitment and Opportunity**

### Participation in the project entails:

- Six mandatory seminars during the year. A required orientation and the first seminar will take place in September. Dates for the other seminars are still to be confirmed, but will most likely be scheduled at quarterly intervals;

#### **Tentative Schedule of Events:**

- September 14 and 15, 2006 – Orientation and First Seminar
  - October 19 or 20, 2006
  - December 8, 2006
  - January 8, 2007
  - April 13, 2007
  - June 8, 2007 - Graduation
- Monthly contacts with a mentor;
  - Completion of a leadership project;
  - Participation in project evaluation tasks.

### This project will benefit participants by providing opportunities to:

- Develop and implement a project to positively impact quality in early care and education;
- Learn new skills in the areas of program administration, planning, implementation, problem-solving and program evaluation from individuals who will serve as mentors;
- Network and dialogue with other professionals in the field of early care and education;
- Dialogue with national experts about early care and education issues.

**To download additional copies of the application materials go to:**

**[http://www.azgovernor.gov/cyf/school\\_readiness/  
Emergent\\_Leaders.html](http://www.azgovernor.gov/cyf/school_readiness/Emergent_Leaders.html)**

# CHASE EMERGENT LEADERS

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 2, 2006**

## **I. Applicant Information**

Please complete both the work and home information AND indicate to which address you wish to have all correspondence sent.

**First Name:**

**MI:**

**Last Name:**

**Work Address:** [ ] Check here if you want us to use your program information for correspondence

Organization/Program

Current Job Title:

Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Daytime Phone: ( )

Evening Phone: ( )

Fax: ( )

E-mail address:

**Home Address:** [ ] Check here if you want us to use your home information for correspondence

Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Daytime Phone: ( )

Evening Phone: ( )

Mobile: ( )

Fax: ( )

E-mail address:

## **II. Essays**

- A. Describe a recent or ongoing activity you completed that you believe improved outcomes for children and families. Highlight your knowledge, skills and role in achieving these outcomes. Describe how this activity became an area of interest, how you achieved the changes needed to accomplish the improved outcomes, how you overcame any obstacles (500 words maximum).
- B. What future early care and education career ambitions do you have? How might this project participation help you achieve them? (150 words)

## **III. Preliminary Project Description (250 words)**

As a part of this program each participant designs and implements a leadership project in early care and education. The preliminary project description (proposal) must include a title, a main goal, and three action steps to achieve your goal. Your project should be realistic in both terms of time commitments and available financial resources. This proposal may change in nature and scope during your participation. Please state clearly, why you need this leadership experience to achieve your project goal.

#### **IV. Letters of Recommendation and Support**

Please submit a letter of recommendation directed to the application review board that addresses your skills, abilities, accomplishments, and your commitment to the field of early care and education. The letter should be from a person who can speak knowledgeably about your work, your potential as a leader, and how participation in this experience will contribute to your professional development. The letter should indicate the writer's relationship with you.

The second letter should be from your current supervisor or employer indicating support of the application and your active participation in all aspects of the program, if selected. Support must include the time required to attend meetings away from work, participation in conference calls and time to complete your project successfully.

Submit only the two requested letters. The Review Board will not consider additional letters.

#### **V. Resume**

Please include a current resume (maximum 4 pages)

#### **VI. Completion of Early Childhood Professional Questionnaire (see attached)**

**Checklist: Please assemble the application in the following order. Staple each packet.**

- \_\_\_ Applicant information
- \_\_\_ 2 essays
- \_\_\_ Project description
- \_\_\_ 2 Letters of recommendation and support
- \_\_\_ Resume
- \_\_\_ Early Childhood Questionnaire
- \_\_\_ Original plus **three** copies of the application package
- \_\_\_ Self-addressed stamped postcard

Please tell us how you heard about this project.

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# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE

## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Current Position: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Years in Position: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Years as an Early Care and Education Professional: \_\_\_\_\_

### My setting is best described as (check one)

☐ Child Care Center    ☐ Community-based Preschool    ☐ Child Care Ministry    ☐ Montessori  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of children served \_\_\_\_\_

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (check all that apply in each column)

#### I have completed the following:

☐ Associate's Degree; Major; \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Bachelor's Degree; Major; \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Master's Degree; Major; \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Doctorate; Major; \_\_\_\_\_

#### I am working on the following at this time:\*

☐ Associate's Degree; Major \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Bachelor's Degree; Major \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Master's Degree; Major \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Doctorate; Major \_\_\_\_\_

\*I plan to complete this course of study (Mo.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

If you have earned any teaching licenses or special professional credentials or certificates, please describe and provide dates earned.

#### License, credential or certificate:

☐ CDA \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ CCP \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### Date Earned:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### COURSEWORK: List formal coursework and credit hours for child care administration courses you have taken:

Course name:	Credit	Hours.
_____		
_____		
_____		

**ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** – In addition to any formal education you have had or are involved in now, please think about other professional development activities you engage in and indicate about how frequently you do each.

1. How many staff/faculty meetings do you hold or attend each year? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many hours (on average) of in-service trainings/workshops do you attend each year? \_\_\_\_\_
3. List two professional books you read in the past year: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What ECE professional newsletters, magazines, and/or journals do you read regularly \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many state and local ECE professional conferences have you attended in the past 3 years? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Who held the conferences? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many national ECE professional conferences have you attended in the past 3 years? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How often do you consult with colleagues about your work? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How often do you have formal supervision meetings with your supervisor or supervisees? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Of what professional organizations are you a member? \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVOCACY EFFORTS**

Please describe ways you advocate for children and their families:

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**STATEMENT ON FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE:**

I certify that I have not been convicted of any crime that would affect my ability to receive fingerprint clearance, as required by the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Arizona Department of Economic Security, for personnel working in licensed child care programs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_